



Children's Healthy Weight CoIIN

Wisconsin: Breastfeeding

Nafla Poff, MPH; Shawn Meyer, MSN, RN, CLC

2018 Efforts

Mini-grants for Wisconsin worksites

One theme that resulted from our 2018 business assessment was a need for **funding to support the creation of lactation spaces**. We budgeted \$2500 to create 10 mini grants to help with the creation of lactation spaces with purpose to improve lactation services and policies within workplaces and to address disparities in lactation support offered to women of various backgrounds and experiences. We launched this initiative during Breastfeeding Week. The mini grant application asked applicants to describe how the project would promote and/or support breastfeeding among employees, especially among groups of women who may be less likely to breastfeed their infants. Examples included: creating/improving a dedicated lactation room (space, chair, table, artwork, printed materials, lock changes), and developing/providing educational materials in multiple languages. A lactation policy was a requirement of the project. The applicant was required to be working with a local or tribal health department for support with the lactation policy and creation of the lactation space or support materials.

Purpose

We aim to assess and enhance efforts for workplace lactation support for local and tribal health agencies and coalitions so that there is coordinated and consistent statewide support, promotion, and implementation of workplace lactation strategies.

Acknowledgements

Our core team members include the following:

Katie Gillespie, DNP, RN; Peggy Helm-Quist, MEd., MHA-PH; Arianna Keil, MD; Shawn Meyer, MSN, RN, CLC; Beth Olson, PhD; and Nafla Poff, MPH; Kelli Stader, MPH, RD, CLS;

Thank you to the WBC Worksite Committee for all your efforts with this project.

Contact Information

Shawn Meyer, MSN, RN, CLC
shawn.meyer@wisconsin.gov

Nafla Poff, MPH
Nafla.poff@wisconsin.gov

Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition
www.wibreastfeeding.com

2018 Project Results

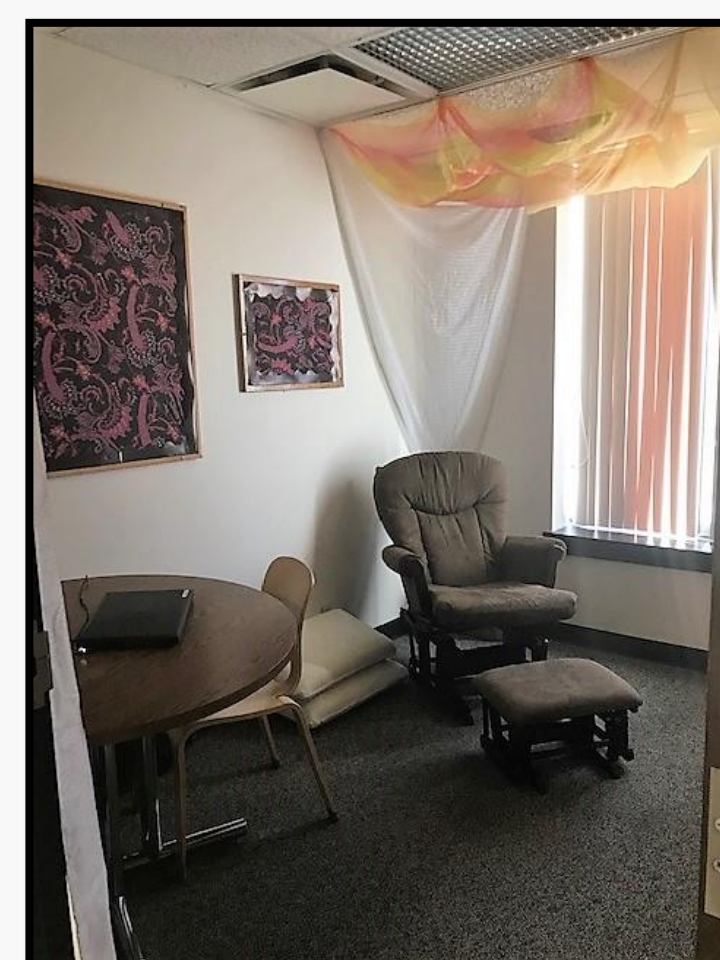


2018 Mini Grant Highlights: Ashland Birth Center

The Ashland Birth Center contributed financially to match and exceed the mini-grant provided by the Wisconsin Breastfeeding Coalition. Their project highlighted Indigenous women from their community that have chosen to breastfeed. The primary art piece is a photo of Indigenous women, wearing their traditional ribbon skirts, in a traditional lodge. An Indigenous elder, Doreen Day, gave the art piece and project an Ojibwe name: "Weweni ganawenimigowaad Gidabinoojiminaanig ini omaamaayiwaan" which means "The mothers are taking care to make a good life for their children". The art piece was printed on canvas and is displayed in their breastfeeding room and a public area at the birth center. The birthing center serves the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians and the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa.

This project's goal was to provide ongoing encouragement and connection with Indigenous breastfeeding mothers.

YWCA LaCrosse:



"Thank you to the WBC for the min-grant, allowing YWCA La Crosse to better utilize a former storage closet and transform it into a warm comfortable room for our breastfeeding mothers and employees to utilize. The room has been used daily, by both YWCA Child Center moms and employees. We are so thankful for this opportunity and proud to be a breastfeeding friendly Center." YWCA LaCrosse

A wide variety of worksites throughout the state received mini grants in 2018, including:

- Birth centers
- Child care centers
- Health care clinics
- Health departments
- Libraries
- Schools
- YMCAs



10 new breastfeeding policies that address barriers to breastfeeding in the workplace were established.

2019 Efforts

In 2019 we expanded the number of mini grants offered to **12 at the same funding level of \$250**. Based on results from our PDSA cycles, we strengthened language within the application to ensure that the mini grants would benefit populations that typically have breastfeeding disparities.

Questions addressed by current PDSA cycles

- Does **adding information on demographic disparities in breastfeeding rates** to mini grant application increase the number of underserved populations identified as targeted in the applications?
- Does **offering more time for 2019 mini grant application** promotion and completion result in more eligible applications being submitted?

